

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Masataka TAMURA et al.
Title: UNDERWATER LASER PROCESSING APPARATUS AND
UNDERWATER LASER PROCESSING METHOD
Appl. No.: Unassigned
Filing Date: 01/26/2004
Examiner: Unassigned
Art Unit: Unassigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

The USPTO has waived the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i) to submit copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications when citing and submitting an Information Disclosure Statements in a patent application filed after June 30, 2003 and in an international application that has entered the national stage under 37 USC §371 after June 30, 2003. Accordingly, copies of these types of documents are not being supplied in connection with this application. Reference is being made to Pre-OG Notice from Office of Patent Legal Administration dated July 25, 2003, *Information Disclosure Statements May Be Filed Without Copies of U.S. Patents and Published Applications in Patent Applications filed after June 30, 2003.*

Applicants submit herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 a listing of the documents cited by or submitted to the U.S. PTO in parent application Serial No. 09/965,122, filed 09/28/2001. As provided in 37 CFR §1.98(d), copies of the documents are not being provided since they were previously submitted to the United States Patent & Trademark Office in the above-identified parent application.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), within three (3) months of the filing date of the application.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

The relevance of the foreign-language documents is explained in the parent application.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date January 26, 2004

By



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Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Date Submitted: January 26, 2004 (use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known		
				Application Number		Unassigned
				Filing Date		01/26/2004
				First Named Inventor		Masataka TAMURA
				Group Art Unit		Unassigned
				Examiner Name		Unassigned
Sheet 1 of 1				Attorney Docket Number		016910-0498

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	A1	5,685,999		WIEDEMANN ET AL.	11-11-1997	
	A2	3,632,955		CRUICKSHANK ET AL.	01-04-1972	
	A3	6,084,202		OKAZAKI ET AL.	07-04-2000	
	A4	5,977,515		URAKI ET AL.	11-02-1999	
	A5	5,938,954		ONUMA ET AL.	08-17-1999	
	A6	5,790,620		OKAZAKI ET AL.	08-04-1998	
	A7	6,060,686		JONES	05-09-2000	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	A8	JP	9-10977	A	ISHIKAWAJIMA HARIMA HEAVY IND. CO., LTD., ET AL.	01-14-1997		
	A9	JP	10-180478	A	ISHIKAWAJIMA HARIMA HEAVY IND. CO., LTD.	07-07-1998		
	A10	JP	2000-153382	A	TOSHIBA CORP.	06-06-2000		
	A11	JP	9-10981	A	ISHIKAWAJIMA SYST. TECHNOL. KK	01-14-1997		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶

Examiner Signature	Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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